REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 5 to 21, 23, 24, 37, 38, 40 to 47, and 49 are now pending in this application. Claims 3, 4, 39 and 50 have been cancelled. Claims 22, 25 to 36, and 48 were previously withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1 to 21, 23 to 24, 37 to 47, 49, and 50 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Anderson patent (EP 1136064 A2), and, further, in view of the Garrison et al. patent (U.S. Patent No. 6355264 B1). The Action states that the Anderson patent discloses a topical composition having a combination of optical diffuser particles and crosslinked silicone elastomer. The Action further stated that an example of particles is silicone particles. The Action further stated that the crosslinked silicone elastomers are formed from a divinyl compound having a siloxane polymer preferably having at least two free vinyl groups, and that the divinyl compound reacts with Si-H linkages of a polysiloxane backbone. The Action states that the Garrison et al. patent discloses a topical insect repellent composition that may have up to 50% of a volatile solvent to improve the feel of the composition against the skin. The Action further stated that it would have been obvious to modify the composition of the Anderson patent by adding a volatile silicone as taught by the Garrison et al. patent with the expectation of improving feel at the skin. The Action further stated that the expected result would be a topical

composition having a hybrid silicone powder matrix, an active ingredient, and a volatile silicone.

The Anderson patent discloses a topical composition having optical diffuser particles, which may be silicone powder among a number of other powder varieties, and a crosslinked silicone elastomer.

The Garrison et al. patent discloses an insect repellent composition having oil of citronella, an emollient, an alkyl benzoate, and an alcohol-based vehicle. The composition may optionally have a sunscreen and a volatile silicone to improve feel against the skin.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 5 to 21, 23, 24, 37, 38, 40 to 47, 49, and 50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Anderson patent, and, further, in view of the Garrison et al. patent is traversed. Independent claims 1, 23, 37, 48, and 49 each require the presence of a matrix having silicone rubber powder particles having a silicone resin or silicone resin powder chemically bound to the surfaces of the particles. The use of chemically bound silicone rubber particles is advantageous because they provide the soft feel of silicone rubber particles with the slip and lubricity of silicone resin particles. Neither the Anderson patent nor the Garrison et al. patent disclose a matrix having chemically bound silicone rubber powder particles. The Anderson patent does not teach that the optical diffuser particles (or silicone powder) of its disclosed composition are

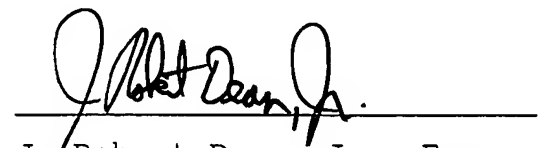
silicone rubber particles nor that the crosslinked silicone elastomer or a silicon resin is chemically bound to the surfaces of those optical diffuser particles. The Garrison et al. patent does not disclose particles at all, let alone silicone rubber particles having a silicone resin chemically bound the surfaces thereof. Thus, neither the Anderson patent nor a combination of the Anderson patent and the Garrison et al. patent yield the present invention.

The rejection of claims 3, 4, 39, and 50 is moot since they have been cancelled.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the present invention are allowable, request that all rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that the claims of this application be given favorable consideration and immediate passage to allowance.

Dated: June 22, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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